UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Attorney General

DATE: May 22, 1961

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: ARTHUR JAMES BALLETTI, et al.
UNAUTHORIZED PUBLICATION
OR USE OF COMMUNICATIONS

This case involves an allegation that Arthur James Balletti and another unidentified individual placed a wire tap on the telephone of Dan Rowan, a member of the comedy team of Rowan and Martin, in October, 1960. (u)

The Criminal Division was previously advised that Robert Maheu, after concealing his full connection with this matter, informed that coverage of Rowan was in furtherance of activities of Maheu on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) relative to anti-Castro activities. X(u)

Colonel Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security, CIA, furnished the information set forth in the attached memorandum regarding his utilization of Maheu in connection with anti-Castro activities. According to Colonel Edwards, Maheu contacted Sam Giancana in connection with this program. Reports of investigation of Giancana have been furnished to the Department in the case entitled "Samuel M. Giancana, Anti-Racketeering." X(u)

Since the purpose for placing the wire tap on Rowan's telephone, which is the basis for this investigation of the violation of the Unauthorized Publication or Use of Communications Statute, has not been determined, the full investigation requested in this matter is continuing and copies of reports will be furnished to the Department upon receipt. (u)

In view of the information regarding CIA's attempted utilization of the hoodlum element in connection with anti-Castro activities, CIA has requested that this information be handled on a "need-to-know" basis. X(u)

Enclosures (2)

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General (Enclosure)

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr. (Enclosure)

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AND FIELD OFFICES
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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-Q
ON 3/9/81

CIA Info declassified per John E. Bacon 8/27/80

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